

THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 28 Issue 3

September 17, 2003



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Pub patrons filled the Blind Duck Pub well before 11:00 p.m. Everyone seemed to have a good time, even the put out smokers.

photo/Melissa Verge

Capacity crowd fills first pub

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

Last Thursday night, after four strenuous days of looking for classrooms, standing in long lines and spending obscene amounts of money on books, UTM students congregated at the Blind Duck Pub to relieve some stress.

"I'm impressed with the enthusiasm of the frosh. First pub is amazing," said Matt Sullivan, Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) College Affairs Commissioner.

"First pub is awesome and I hope we have more of these," said third year student Pablo Petrucci.

One of the Assistant Managers of the pub, Sean O'Leary said the pub reached capacity before 11:00 p.m. and the night was incident-free.

"It was a really good night.

There were no incidents whatsoever. It was a perfect pub," said O'Leary.

"We sold 100 advance tickets in two days, in spite of the smoking ban. We were really pleased with the student spirit on first pub. I have to give a lot of credit to ECSU and the Pub Patrol."

The Pub Patrol, a voluntary promotion team, encourages students during the week to support the pub.

"We let them know what is happening at the pub and encourage them to attend. It's all about spirit and activity. I think that ECSU has been at a distance – there is not much direct interaction. Students come to ECSU instead of ECSU going to them. With Pub Patrol, we inform students directly and encourage school spirit," said Paul Banwatt, ECSU Special Projects Director.

Pub patroller Chris Uhrin was pleased with the First Pub turnout. "Today was very productive. We walked around campus talking to students. Even in the wake of the tragedy, people were patient and willing to know what was happening-with the pub. Even if they weren't coming to pub, they still wanted to know what was happening. First pub was a success and it was only the first step. Filling the pub for first pub isn't that hard. The task is to keep them coming and keep them entertained," he said.

O'Leary hopes that the pub will continue to be well attended in light of the smoking ban. "We still have the patio for smokers to go outside. For the majority of the year, there will be a problem for

smokers as it becomes colder. However, the law is instated all across the city. I expect this year will be better than the last," he said.

ECSU Vice President of Finance Mary Halopulos was pleased that the pub filled quickly for first pub. "I'm liking the fact that it's packed," she said. "I like seeing people dancing and having a good

First Pub continued on page 5

US tragedy stuns UTM students

Students deal with the US devastation

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

On Tuesday, September 11 around 8:45 a.m., tragedy hit the United States of America and the impact resounded across the world. Fear, shock and dread vibrated through North America as people saw the traumatic events as they unfolded through the media.

Upset students of Erindale gathered in the Blind Duck Pub and residences to watch the appalling devastation of monumental and impressive American establishments.

Student leaders and administration express concern for students who are emotionally affected by the tragic events. UTM Residence initiated a series of student support seminars to attempt to alleviate the emotional pressures experienced by students.

Residence Manager Jan Maw said that UTM has an obligation to its students in wake of the emotionally disturbing events in the US. "I feel the UTM community has a responsibility to its students

who are involved emotionally with this tragedy and we should be able to comfort and assist them in any way possible. The main purpose of the session will be to facilitate students in dealing with their emotions and the pain that is associated with these tragic events in the United States," he said.

The first of these seminars was held on Thursday. "With a bare minimum of structure, students could talk about what they wanted to talk about. I thought it went very well. A lot of students said it made a significant difference for them because many students expressed the same feelings. It focused on how students felt about the situation as it was unfolding. The diversity of our students was represented – all of their fears, views, emotions that they were not able to express. It was positive for everyone who was there," said Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs.

Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) President, Erick McKinlay said ECSU wants UTM students to donate blood for those afflicted in the US. "Paul Banwatt (Special Projects Director) is working on a project to connect the campus to blood clinics. Our hearts go out to all who have been affected. We

UTM continued on page 4



Principal Robert McNutt addressed the students, faculty and staff that gathered on Friday in the Kaneff Centre to remember those who perished in the tragic US events.

photo/Melissa Verge

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"That's just bullshit."

– ECSU College Affairs Commissioner Matt Sullivan comments on the old Vibe "volunteer" fee, page 2.



PATIO PUB THIS THURSDAY
BLIND DUCK PUB

I AM UTM WEEK AT THE PUB SPONSORED BY MOLSON THIS WEEK



Vibe gets rid of "volunteer fee" from deejays

Radio station implements deposit system

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

Vibe is off to a fresh start this year. They turned over a new leaf and threw out the old notion of a "volunteer fee."

Last year, Vibe charged all of their volunteer deejays a \$40 fee, also called a "commitment fee" by former Vibe station manager Dion Mahadeo.

Now deejays are required to pay a \$20 deposit that will be returned to them at the end of the year, provided that the deejay they honour the station's rules and regulations.

Matt Sullivan, Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) College Affairs Commissioner expressed, his distaste for the old system. "From what I understand, [this year's] station personnel felt that the fee the volunteers were charged was inappropriate. I certainly felt that way. I have no problem with the deposit. It ensures commitment from deejays, as long as all the

money is returned to the students. Now that all the money will be returned to the students, I think that it's a vast improvement from last year," he said.

Deejays expressed discontent for

the \$40 fee last year. In a message to the deejays posted on the station's website, Mahadeo wrote, "the reason there is a fee in the first place is simply this: becoming a DJ on Vibe radio means becoming

part of a club. Be it a fitness club, country club, even a student organization like the commerce club, you pay a fee to become a member."

ECSU President and former College Affairs Commissioner Erick Mckinlay, "As College Affairs Commissioner, I had a number of things on my agenda. I had discussed the fee with Dion and asked deejays for their input as individuals. It was something that had to be approached and I felt that it was an issue that needed to be discussed."

But this year, there is no "commitment fee." Taban Nabi, this year's station manager, said the pricey volunteer fee was in place so that the station could repair equipment and buy new equipment.

"I think last year they had a different situation, they needed to purchase the turntables. There wasn't enough [funds] in the budget and that's why they charged the

deejays extra. Now we have the turntables.

"At this point right now, I don't think we need any extra money from the volunteers. \$10 is a key card deposit and the other \$10 you will get back, provided that you

"...it's much more validated to have a deposit fee. I think that under no circumstances should there be a volunteer fee kept by the station. That's just bullshit"
- Matt Sullivan

stay committed as a deejay and you don't break any rules or regulations," she said.

Sullivan believes that the change in policy will increase the number of Vibe deejays.

"I think that

this year, given the high demand to work at Vibe, it's much more validated to have a deposit fee. I think that under no circumstances should there be a volunteer fee kept by the station. That's just bullshit," he said

"I hope deejays will be happier. It will make relations between management and the deejays better and it will encourage more volunteer deejays to come out.

"Last year, I knew some deejays who did not come to volunteer for Vibe because they thought the fee was stupid. It's good that it's gone."

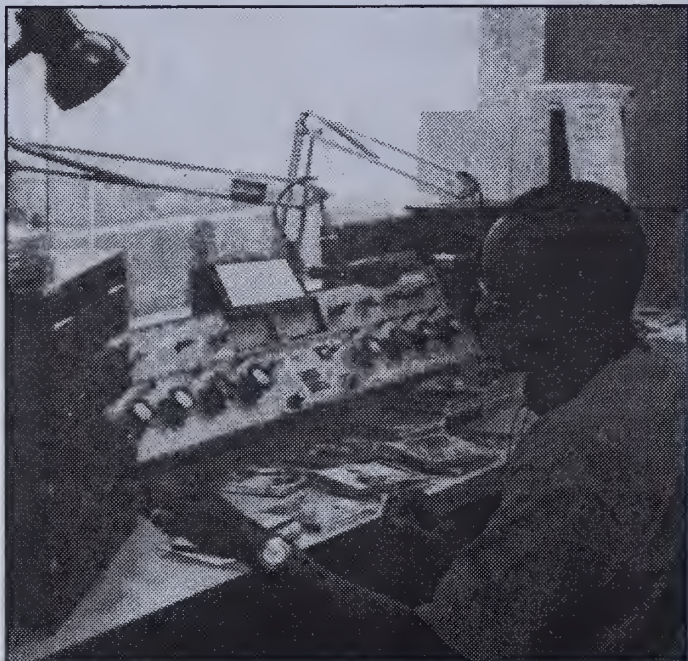
According to Section Seven of the deejay contract, deejays will be fined in accordance to the rule that the deejay broke. For "missing a show without notifying the Production Manager, failure to complete a program log or failure to comply with a manager's written or verbal instructions," the deejay will be fined \$10.

For "swearing on air, trashing or slamming artists or music labels, eating or drinking in the studio, having more than three guests in the studio at one time, failure to read ads/PSAs in the message binder on air twice an hour, failure to return a signed out CD on time [or] leaving the studio in a disorderly state," the deejay will be fined \$5.

Nabi said that there is an excess of students applying to deejay at Vibe. "I was very surprised at the number of applications that we received. We weren't expecting the turnout of deejays wishing to volunteer at Vibe. We are very pleased. The frosh were surprised that the deposit fee was so low. I think that for the senior students, the absence of the volunteer fee and the implementation of a deposit fee with a full money-back policy is appealing."

Vibe's official launch date this year is September 24. An instructional video will train the deejays on the new sound board that Vibe recently purchased. Because of the excess of applicants, they will have a single one-hour slot as opposed to the two slots last year.

Sullivan eagerly awaits Vibe's launch date. "I look forward to Vibe's playing in the future. Vibe is a great station. I hope the first year students enjoy it as much as others did in the past," he said.



Vibe deejays no longer have to dip into their pockets and pay \$40 to "volunteer" at the Erindale Radio Station.

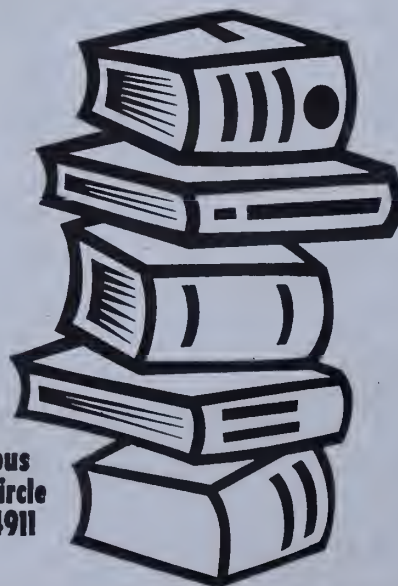
file photo

Students' Administrative Council & University of Toronto Bookstore Book Bursary

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ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYER INFORMATION SESSIONS THIS WEEK!

Deloitte & Touche (SUMMER & FULL-TIME) - Monday, Sept. 17, 5:00-7:00 in Council Chambers, Room 3130 SB
Federal Government Post-Secondary Recruitment (FULL-TIME) & Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (SUMMER & FULL-TIME) - Wednesday, Sept. 19, 12:00-1:00 and 1:00-2:00 in Kaneff Centre, Room 132

Also meet with over 100 employers at Career Information Days: Sept. 20-21 at the St. George Campus

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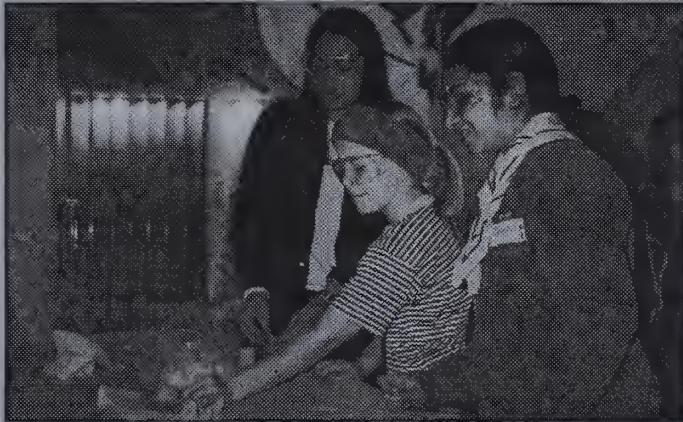
New Science Education Program at UTM

BY SYLVIA NALLI-PETTA

The process of education depends greatly upon the effective communication of ideas, thoughts and theories, not only for students within a classroom setting, for everyone.

With the need to make students, especially those pursuing careers in the sciences, more comfortable with the tools of communication, the faculty of science starting this year offers a Science Education Minor to those pursuing a major or specialist in the sciences.

New this year, the program places emphasis on the education of the sciences and is open to students in the physical, mathematical or life sciences (including psychology). Program coordinator John Percy explained that the program grew out of the successful three-year old SCI398Y course entitled 'Science Education Seminar,' which evaluates students through assignments, projects and placements in teaching environments.



University students teach young ones the fundamentals of science in the Science Education Program

photo/ courtesy John Percy

Recognizing that science-related careers all involve elements of "education, outreach and communication," the program is essentially a package composed of several already existing courses spanning other disciplines at UTM, including philosophy, psychology and professional writing.

"There are so few viable programs in the sciences that it just makes sense for us to have this," explains Percy, who is professor not only of astronomy but of education as well.

This innovative program fits in well with those intending to pursue teaching, but as Percy notes, it is not limited only to those headed for teacher's college.

"The program is not specifically intended to produce schoolteachers, not everyone wants to be a teacher, and most of the students in SCI398 go onto grad school."

According to Percy, "Every scientist should be aware of education and be able to communicate it effectively. A forensic scientist, for example, having to explain something to a jury

must be able to communicate scientific aspects to them."

Both of the core science courses in the faculty, SCI398Y and SCI499H, allow students to have hands-on experience in the teaching of science, as both are structured around projects and also introduce elementary and secondary curriculums. "Undergraduate and graduate students work with youth groups on various projects, such as 'Let's Talk Science'."

According to the website, "The Let's Talk Science' organization aims to "interest young people in Science" and to "improve the confidence and competence of teachers in teaching Science." SCI398 has a cap of 30 students, and is only half full this year, with 16 students registered.

Percy states that those in the course are some of the best in the science division and that many students are not fully aware of the opportunity to participate in the course, as there are hardly any courses at the undergraduate level that involve education.

The program's inter-disciplinary range "offers something that is different and encourages students to combine disciplines," says Percy, who right now is the only one heading the program.

He describes this as an advantage, but is hopeful that the program will grow and bring in more specialized people.

"Erindale is in discussions with OISE (the Ontario Institute in Studies of Education) about the possibility of starting joint B.Sc. and B.Ed. here. Although these discussions are in very preliminary stages, its good to think about getting into partnerships that will have career opportunities for students that other universities don't have," he said.

SAC by-elections in fall

Unprecedented SAC Presidential by-election in fall

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

For the first time in over 20 years, the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) will hold its by-elections in the fall for the Presidential and Vice-Presidential positions.

In early April, Nielank Jha's ticket won the Presidential race in SAC's elections. However, SAC's Board of Directors disqualified the election results after questions were raised concerning campaign violations and discrepancies.

"I'm confident that we won't face the same problems that we did last elections"
— Chris Allsop

The board created a provisional SAC Board of Directors to fill the empty positions left open after the disqualifications.

The board elected Chris Allsop, a UTM student and originally SAC's External Affairs Commissioner, as SAC Interim President until the fall by-elections.

Jen Lockie, originally the Clubs Commissioner, became the interim Vice President of Operations and Courtney MacDonald, initially the Promotions Commissioner, became the interim Vice President of Education.

Allsop hopes that elections in the fall will run smoother than it did last March with the revamped SAC elections code.

"We have a new elections code and we have installed a demerit point system. Every time a code is violated they lose demerit points depending on the violation. They have up to 40 demerit points and once you have reached your maximum quota of 40 points, the Presidential ticket will be withdrawn from the elections."

First continued on page 5

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UTM tries to come to terms with Tuesday's events

continued from front

felt touched and hurt by what had occurred and we are concerned about all students," he said.

Mark Lippincott, a professor of Political Science, does not see a direct impact on Canada and Canadian universities in the near future. "I do not see a direct effect, except that certainly there will be greater security around travel and the border will be quite different in terms of negotiation. Getting in and out of the US will be whole different deal. For two days we walked around with no planes in the sky. This is unprecedented," he said.

"Apart from the fact that whenever any country goes to war it changes the outlook of how we think about things, I don't see a radical impact on the universities. There will possibly heightened tensions between ethnic groups in the university. I don't see the impact primarily because even though Canada is clearly aligned with the US, I think it is fair to say that the US is going to run this as their own show. Of course, they will welcome any aid that Canada will send their way but this will basically be a show run out of

Washington D.C. I think the impact on Canada will be relatively minimal. Unless the strikes continue. If there are more problems then the story changes," he said.

Some students expressed concern that there will be a backlash on the Arab and Muslim community as speculation increases that the terrorist's may be Middle Eastern and/or Muslim.

Muslim Students' Association (MSA) President Fattah Aboghodieh condemns the acts that the terrorists committed and called on students to practice restraint and not to attack a particular ethnic community. "I think that the events that happened were so horrible and tragic. So many people got injured and killed, innocent people who have nothing to

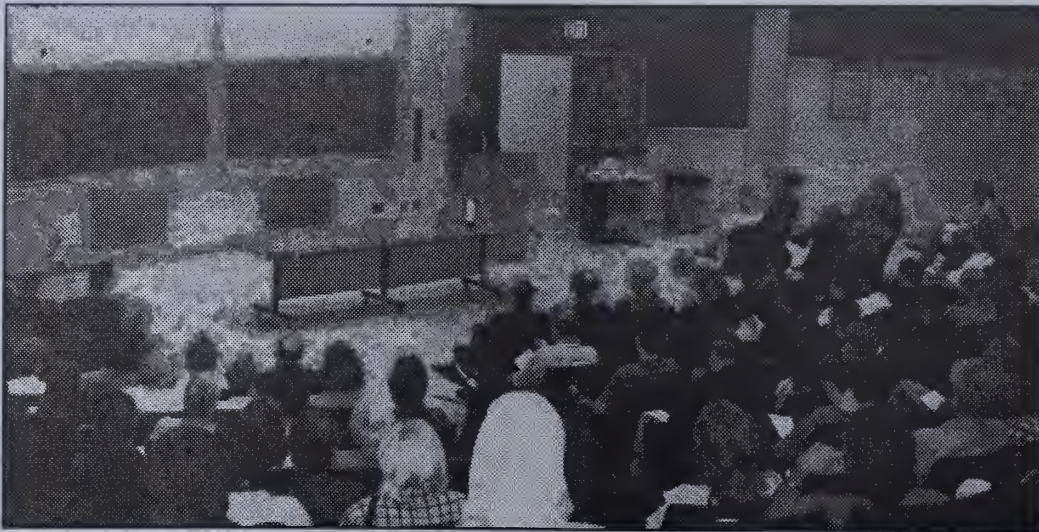
do with these terrorists. I want to encourage students to control their anger. I am glad that students have been taking the issue so objectively. They still Pthaven't found clear cut evidence for who is responsible for this crime. The community whoever [the terrorists] happens to from should not take the blame," he said.

Principal Robert McNutt

expressed similar sentiments in a statement issued to staff and faculty.

"It is vital that we prevent strong emotions from undermining our university environment, where we inquire, learn and reflect as members of a responsible and civil society."

— Robert McNutt



Principal McNutt speaks to the congregation at the Memorial Service held on Friday. There was a three minute silent remembrance for those who died during the service.

photo/ Melissa Verge

SAC FALL 2001 BY-ELECTION

1st Nomination Period begins

» **Tues, Sept 18/01 @ 9am**

1st Nomination Period closes

» **Wed, Sept 19/01 @ 5pm**

2nd Nomination Period begins

» **Thurs, Sept 20/01 @ 9am**

2nd Nomination Period closes

» **Fri, Sept 21/01 @ 5pm**

Mandatory All Candidates Meeting
Fri, Sept 21/01 @ 6pm
Hart House

Campaigning begins
Mon, Sept 24/01 @ 12:01am
Campaigning ends
Fri, Oct 5/01 @ 11:59pm

ELECTION FORUMS:
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First Day of Voting on ROSI
Tues, Oct 9/01 -7am to 11pm
Last Day of Voting
Wed, Oct 10/01 -7am to 11pm

Results
Thursday, October 11, 2001

Number of seats available:

Constituency # of seats

Executive

President 1

Vice-President Operations 1

Vice-President Education 1

St. George - Arts & Science

St. Michael's College 1

Innis College 2

Suburban Campuses

Erindale 1

Scarborough 5

Second Entry & Professional Faculties

Applied Science & Engineering 1

Architecture 1

Dentistry 1

Medicine 1

Music 1

Nursing 1

OISE 2

Physical Education 1

TYP 1

Other

CIUT 3

Total Seats 25



"In light of Tuesday's tragic events in the US it is important for our college to support its community members. UTM has students, alumni, faculty and staff from New York and Washington D.C. areas, along with others who have friends and family there or who may have had relationships with some on the flights involved. We also have students from the Mideast, where the media's attention is currently focused, although unfortunately not just on suspected terrorists, but frequently and unfairly on entire cultures and communities," he wrote.

"It is vital that we prevent strong emotions from undermining our university environment, where we inquire, learn and reflect as members of a responsible and civil society."

Tonight, there will be another student support seminar held at Colman House at 9:00 p.m. Residence organised a march of students to take place before the student support seminar. "If students would like to show each other and the world their support for the tragedy that has befallen the United States, they can join other UTM students in a march of solidarity tonight at 8:00pm. Everyone will meet in front of the South Building," said Maw. The seminar will be informal and speaker, psychologist Dick O'Brian, to talk to students in helping them deal with their emotions involved with the tragedy.

Principal McNutt expressed his condolences to those affected directly and indirectly. "This is a great tragedy. The message for our students is to remind them that we operate in an inclusive community. We must work together and must not isolate or single out any particular person or group," he said.

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Students' Administrative Council WWW.sac.utoronto.ca

First Pub of the year a success

continued from front

time. If it's like this every week, I'll be very happy."

Halopulos noted that at the present time, pub management is looking at different ways to promote the pub. "If somebody comes with an idea, we have to see what is feasible financially for the pub. Right now, we are looking at VIP passes but we have to see if it will work financially."

The pub is also trying to encourage under age students to pub nights by allowing them into pub nights with under age entry cards. The card system was instated after Christmas 1999 and will continue this year.

"Students under the age of 19 sign an agreement that says that they understand the liquor license laws and know that they are not allowed to drink. When they come

to pub, they leave their pub entry card and student ID at the door and a wristband is placed on their wrist. The wristband must still be intact on their wrist when they are leaving. If it is not, they are told to go home and the cards are given to the campus police.

"I think first-year students had a great time at Pub and I hope they continue to support the pub," said O'Leary.



Smokers had to retreat outside because of the new municipal smoking laws. They don't seem too upset at having to smoke outside, do they?

photo/ Melissa Verge

First Presidential by-elections in fall ever

continued from page 3

SAC's Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Mark Kissel, has the same sentiment as Allsop.

"We spent the summer working on an elections code that will alleviate the problems that SAC faced in previous elections. I'm confident that we won't face the same problems that we did last elections," he said.

SAC Erindale Chair Nicole

Phillips commends the interim crew for their work this summer.

"The interim commissioners picked up the work that had to be done. They've put in a great deal of effort and carried out a job well done."

Allsop said that, in his term as SAC President, he made a concerted effort to create downtown awareness of the suburban campuses.

"I think I've done a good job of representing the suburban campuses and making downtown aware of our

presence," he said.

"The suburban campuses will be hit the most with the double cohort and I think it's important that I make downtown administration aware of the suburban's plight."

Two weeks ago, one of the UTM SAC directors, Junaid Yousuf, resigned from the SAC Board of Directors after being accepted to

medical school in Ottawa. A new UTM director will be elected when the fall elections are held in October. Phillips feels that this resignation will not affect the SAC UTM commission.

"It won't be too bad. There are not a lot of events to organize between now and

the by-elections. There are still five of us on the UTM commission and we will all pitch in and pick up the projects that Junaid worked on before he left."

The SAC by-elections will be held via on-line voting on ROSI on October 9 and 10.

"I think I've done a good job of representing the suburban campuses and making downtown aware of our presence"
— Chris Allsop

You can contact us at our email address: ecsu@hotmail.com

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| 23  AIDS WALK Because AIDS has no cure! | 24 | 25 \$2 TUESDAY BACK @ PUB | 26 Volunteer Fair | 27 ECSU Student Appreciation PUB!! | 28 | 29 |

SEPTEMBER 17-21

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EDITORIAL

THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 3 CIRCULATION 5000 SEPTEMBER 17, 2001

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Clearing the air

EDITORIAL

Ding dong, the volunteer fee is dead. UTM's campus radio station has finally come to its senses and realized that it shouldn't be charging its volunteers a fee. Last year, Vibe received much criticism for taking \$40 (including a \$15 keycard deposit) from each of its deejays – unpaid volunteers who help the station out of their own free time.

After The Medium first reported on the station's fee last November, controversy erupted. While some of Vibe's management idiotically stood behind the fee, some of its deejays denounced it and questioned the reasoning behind it. Management had several different names for it: First they called it a 'commitment fee,' saying they needed a way to ensure that deejays showed up and did their jobs. One deejay asked how the fee could possibly ensure commitment if deejays are forced to pay it up-front and don't get reimbursed – he asked: what would deter a deejay from quitting if they already know their money is gone? Vibe also said what deejays were paying for was an 'artistic license' – apparently permissions of creativity cost money.

Management couldn't give a straight answer why they charged a fee when they already receive about \$18,000 in incidental fees from full-time students. They revised their reasoning and called it an 'initiation fee' – they brainlessly compared joining the station to joining a membership-fee-charging club. ECSU-recognized clubs charge membership fees because they don't receive money from incidental fees and Vibe has never been a club. That's not Vibe's role on campus. Vibe is here to allow any interested student the chance to see what it's like to deejay (or work) at a radio station – not to limit, exclude, or deter any student (who already forked over \$4 in their incidental fees) just because they want their own little 'club.'

One more thing: Management, which admitted to keeping the volunteer fee despite not knowing why the fee was present in the past (they essentially kept the fee and found a reason to 'justify' it later), also said money from the fee would go towards the purchase of new equipment.

So here we had this small-time radio station, looking for new equipment, which it apparently couldn't afford with just its revenue from incidental fees. They couldn't afford it, so they labelled this lingering fee with all these different names and half-wittedly classified themselves as a 'club' – all of this without asking anyone. The volunteer fee was never justified. Incidental fees are justified. Incidental fees are in place because they were established properly through an approval process – bullshit 'commitment' fees, 'initiation' fees, and 'artistic licenses' go through no such process. Does this remind anyone of the stench around the Centre for Physical Education's \$50 'all-inclusive' athletics fee two years back?

But now Vibe is airing out this shit-smelling foulness. Good for them. Thankfully, Station Manager Taban Nabi didn't rack her brain for a justification to this asinine fee. Vibe's \$20 deposit this year will ensure deejay commitment better than last year's volunteer fee. And Nabi is already noticing an increase in the number of students interested in deejaying – looks like the morons who advocated the station's volunteer fee last year were onto something: discourage as many students as possible if you want to make your own club.

Congratulations on being reasonable Nabi.

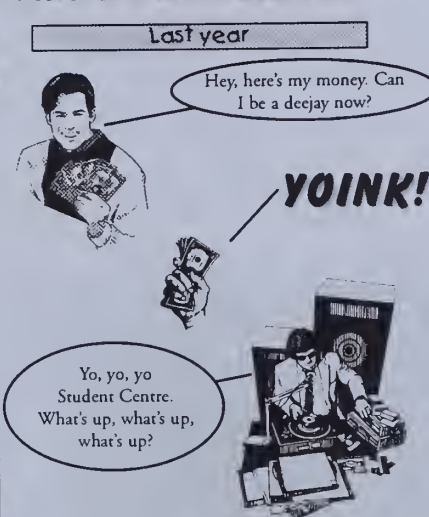
The Medium will be holding a by-election for the position of Features Editor on Friday, October 5, 2001.

Stop by our office on the second floor of the Student Centre to find out more about the position and to fill out an application.

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. The Medium's mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. Office burps, hiccups, and other bodily sounds courtesy of Jackie Moji.

We gave the pub a lot of business last Thursday. Apparently I was speaking to Erick in Spanish. Tammi got really drunk and turned into a parrot and Ass was so loaded that she became coherent – well, not quite. Both were 'yakin' up a storm the next day. Annaleise, Jackie likes taking her four-inch diskshoppers off to air out her feet, but then the office starts to smell. She also likes picking the staple in her nose. We ran into McNut on our way to Swish (halet on Friday – he didn't want to come with us. Maybe next time. Tammi says, "I can't handle people that are constantly jerking off." Speaking of which, were the Hell is everyone? It's Saturday afternoon for shit's sake. Tammi finished her interview at 9:40pm on Saturday – gotta be a record. She interviewed Mary while Mary was in a movie theatre. She also 'forgot' to talk to Maura for the pub story. Tammi, Tammi, what was on your mind? Jen bounced in at 10pm dropped in her poncho – she failed an orgasm and Tammi started thinking about her love life. Ass is returning water. Jen says my magic sweater is losing its power. Shit. Jen says she's hot. Tammi is starting to disappear for hours on end – we're gonna start sending out search parties. Office survey: Jen and Ass rated assable farting as 'not offensive' but Tammi says it's 'flipping disgusting.' Let the gas fly. Jen's leaving already. Adam's getting upset. Richie can come and go as he pleases now. Asshole. Where the fuck is ChickArt? Tammi says I walk on my toes. Yeah, well, you smell. I gotta be outta here soon. Hockey tomorrow morning. Romano shaved his face and now he looks like a 17-year-old boy – Jen'll be after him soon. Think I'll be a deejay this year. Sur! Hockey ruined me. Richie's on the couch trying to figure out how to make moves. Melissa and I have decided to smash the scanner on the floor – either that, or we throw it off the roof of the Student Centre. It's 6:09pm and I have nothing to do. News layout ain't done and Ass and Jen are MIA. Thanks for helping with the flats Melissa (even though I destroyed them). Fuck, fuck.

Vibe's volunteer fee...



Satisfied customer

re: "Smoking banned in the Blind Duck" and "Smoked Duck?"

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Blind Duck Pub, I am writing to let you know that we were very pleased with *The Medium's* coverage of the government's new 'no-smoking' policy in local restaurants. Your news story and editorial presented and explained the situation accurately and fairly.

We don't want students to think that this is something we've implemented because we think it's a good idea – we implemented it because we were forced to. We're happy that this was the message conveyed in the paper last week. Congratulations on a job well done. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
 Blind Duck Pub Management.

Support available

Dear Editor,

On September 11, the United States and its citizens suffered greatly at the hands of terrorists. We are all saddened to see what has occurred.

It is important for all members of our college community to keep those who have suffered, their families and friends in our thoughts and in our prayers. It is also important for our community that we ensure a well-mannered and calm environment throughout this time. Our college must remain a place where all can study, socialize and engage in educational activities in comfort. We must also keep in mind that these terrible actions were committed by a small number of extremists and do not represent in any way the beliefs of any one community, religion or group.

For those in need of support at this time, the following support services offer counselling and referrals to the UTM community, including students, faculty and staff:

- Registrar Services: (905) 828-5399
- Health Centre: (905) 828-5255
- Residence: (905) 828-5286
- Campus Police: (905) 828-5200

We ask students to do what they can to help out our friends and neighbours in mourning their losses.

On behalf of the Erindale College Student Union,

Erick Stuardo McKinlay
 ECSU President

Campus line-ups are a pain

Frosh be forewarned: lineups are a pain. Do yourself a favor and get up early to get to the front of them. And even if you do, be ready to wait. And wait. And wait. This is not high school and this may be your first real taste of real university life (well, unless you live on Residence and you know about some of this pain already).

Let's do this like than 'Pain, Motrin Pain' commercial:

Opinion

By Jon Lee

Pain: Getting into the bookstore to buy a multitude of books for class.

Motrin Pain: Getting in line to purchase the books in the first week of school.

Real Motrin Pain: Discovering you do not have enough cash.

Pain: Lining up to get a parking pass for yourself or a friend.

Motrin Pain: You have to start at 2:30 a.m. in order to get one of the few 'precious' brown passes behind

the Student Centre.

Pain: Lining up in one of the longest lines for sure: Registrarial Services.

Motrin Pain: When one attendant goes for break, leaving one attendant to handle the line that goes out the door.

Pain: Getting into a line that goes all the way to the lecture halls in the South Building.

Motrin Pain: Discovering it's the line to Tim Horton's.

Pain: Getting into any line which reminds you of being at Canada's Wonderland.

Motrin Pain: Doing so on two hours sleep.

Tips:

- Have a nice lawn chair or blanket handy.
- Bring something with you to pass the time like a book, a Gameboy, or a friend.
- Bring food or drinks so you don't pass out.

Frosh Week explanation

re: "ECSU Welcomes Frosh," September 10, 2001

Dear Editor,

As organizers of the SAC Orientation Day held at the St. George campus during Orientation week, we'd like to clarify some things mentioned in the article "ECSU Welcomes Frosh" in last week's issue of the Medium.

First, with all the happenings and events of the day, all of the SAC executive and volunteers were occupied with various assigned jobs and could not always get in touch with the college organizers or respond instantly to their questions and concerns.

The SAC Orientation Co-ordinator kept the college organizers informed via e-mail and phone up to a day or two before the event. Also, with a change of venue for the night party, a few unexpected details arose that we had to deal with in the evening, but even so, the night party went as

planned.

Some organizers assumed that the SAC Day events would follow those of previous years, but each SAC Orientation Co-ordinator is different and this year Sean O'Leary changed the venue and the time of the night party in an effort to better the event.

UTM's frosh didn't have the option of going home to clean up and rest before the night party began. As a result, we had no control over their 'standing around time.'

We appreciated all the spirit and help that UTM offered during the parade and the night party and we hope that next year's Frosh has as much energy and spirit.

Courtney MacDonald
 Interim VP-Education, Promotions Commissioner

Sean O'Leary
 SAC Orientation Co-ordinator

Nicole Phillips
 SAC UTM Commissioner

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor will be edited for spelling, grammar, style, and coherence. Letters will not exceed 500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not be published. Letters

reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-in-chief, other editors and staff, or The Medium's Board of Directors. In other words, just because we print it doesn't necessarily mean we agree with it. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to The Medium presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk or e-mail to medium@canada.com.

OPINIONS

September 11, 2001: The day the world changed

Unthinkable nightmare not a dream

The nightmare is real. Wishing that tomorrow we would realize it was just a dream has not worked. The unthinkable happened. Countless lives have been lost, and the death toll is too scary to even contemplate. Unfortunately during such times, evil begets evil. Evil forces have challenged our society (and whether they're foreign or domestic is irrelevant at this point).

Opinion

BY MOHAMMED EL RASHIDY

We know that a group of individuals have meticulously planned to harm the world economy, world peace, and its backbone, the United States in particular. It is hard to believe that more than one person on this planet is capable of carrying out such an act, but reports tell us that likely more than a dozen are responsible.

The immediate impact of the attacks has been unimaginable, but the response to them in the United States and Canada is also scary. The attacks may not have only ripped the infrastructure of the greatest democracy apart, but it may end up dividing its people.

As the shock and disbelief simmer in the days following the most despicable crime of this century, anger and revenge are bound to fill many hearts. These past days have been rare, not just in their tragedy but because the entire world stands in awe at the 'Attack on America.' The Muslim and Arab community in North America, like all other citizens of this peace-loving continent, have been condemned and suffered directly from the terrorist acts that have targeted their country and neighbors. However, over the

last two days, this very community has borne the brunt of the anger and revenge that is bound to sweep all those touched by the tragedy. The spotlight is on the Muslim and Arab community of North America. It seemed, at first, that the only reason the media is showing relative restraint in attacking any specific group or community was for fear of a repeat of the fall-out from the Oklahoma City bombing.

Memories are still fresh of attacks on Mosques and Muslims in various parts of the United States. But all attacks ceased when reports told us that it was not the 'usual suspects' that committed the act, but an American by the name of Timothy McVeigh. Apart from the absurd conclusions by the United States government that a lone man carried out the heinous crime in Oklahoma, our society made a mistake.

"We as a people did not learn from the horrible events in Oklahoma"

We as a people did not learn from the horrible events in Oklahoma. We may have recovered from the physical damage but we did not address the weakness that it exposed in our society. As nations of immigrants from around the world, North Americans are still at times suspicious of other 'cultures' and have not learned to view our fellow citizens as equals regardless of their background, skin color, or belief.

The attacks on the Muslim community, which were hardly addressed at the time, were dismissed not as an unacceptable case of intolerance and an attack on the basic foundations of democracy which we claim to profess to the rest of the world, but rather a case of misplaced anger and revenge. As if it was okay to do it, had the killers been indeed Muslims? Should it matter who the perpetrators of this crime are to our society?

There is no question that it should matter. However, we need to ask why all white males named 'Timothy' were not attacked or singled out in anyway after his conviction and

Horrendous disaster strikes New York City's World Trade Center and Washington D.C.'s Pentagon.

admission of guilt? Timothy McVeigh claimed to be close to God and made many references to the Bible, do we associate his actions with Christianity? Even if McVeigh himself claimed to be following the word of God? Obviously we know better than to do that. We know enough about Christianity to distance it from such despicable actions, and we also know enough about other white males named 'Timothy.'

We know that they are not terrorists and this was the act of an individual. We dismiss all his affiliations and beliefs and identify him as an individual. Why? Because everything else about him is too close to 'real North Americans.' So it must be discarded.

Today, we are deeper in rubble, and drenched in tears. Our weaknesses yet again exposed. Not only in the security of our buildings and airplanes, but the fabric of our society. With another terrorist attack, Muslims are singled out and with no lessons learned from the past we are bound to repeat the same mistakes. The Muslim community in North America and around the world is praying for the victims, but also for the murderers to be from anywhere but Muslim countries.

Any person with the slightest knowledge about Islam knows that the murders were not committed by Muslims since their actions are so contradictory to Islamic teachings. But how many people in North America are educated about Islam? When and if several Mohameds and Mustafas are blamed for these murders, it will not be their individuality that North Americans blame. But rather their belief, their skin color and their relatives. Somehow their God will be responsible, bigotry and ignorance will show their ugly head again.

Absurd claims that Islam rewards such unimaginable massacres will circulate and feed the already misinformed society. The media has already pounced on the vulnerable community and the presence of a Qur'an (the Muslim holy book) in a Boston airport is reported as evidence. One has to wonder why the Qur'an is evidence when it is Muslims, but the Bible is not when it is Christians? What does the belief system of billions of people around the world have to do with the disgusting actions of some individuals?

Ironically, the people most experienced in dealing with such persecution throughout their history are the Jewish people. Unfortunately, due to the terrible events in the Middle East, the Jewish and Muslim communities have been on opposite ends of almost every discussion, and will most likely remain so in the short term at least. The suffering of the Jewish people is too long to be summarized in any single book, let alone a few paragraphs, but their experience and support would have been one of only a few remedies to this situation.

As the killing continues in the occupied territories today alone a total of 11 people have been killed all of which were Palestinians (one of the highest number of deaths in a single day since the beginning of the Intifada a year ago, the United States will continue to focus inwards and ignore the Middle East which has been slipping into the abyss of war and hate.

North America itself has already begun to slip into a state of tension, a single community has been singled out, mosques have been fire-bombed in Montreal, and Muslim web-sites have been forced to shut down due to the massive amount of hate-mail.

One hopes that such acts will not escalate, for they do not represent what we as a society, stand for, and they make us no different than our enemies who indiscriminately attack.



Above: United States President George W. Bush addresses the world. Below: Headlines worldwide acknowledge the 'Attack on America.'



Innocence lost, fear rises

This is a sad day.
This is a fearful day.
This is an emotional day.
Most of all, this is a surreal day.

Opinion

BY JON LEE

I sit here writing e-mails on my break, like any other day. But it's not just any day. It's changed due to the tragic events that occurred on September 11 – now a day of infamy.

When I got up, I was listening to my favorite sports radio station when I heard about the first plane hitting the World Trade Center in New York. At first, I thought someone was playing a cruel joke. Then I realized it was more like a bad dream, amplified and thrust into reality.

We are now shattered and broken, not just the United States, but the entire world. Friends from as far away as China have called, all talking about this 'break' that has torn the safety of modern society and threatens to send us back into the Dark Ages.

Questions will arise from these harsh ashes and rubble.

How can we go on?
How can school continue when some will never see a class again? Or go to a baseball game?

Or see a concert?
We have each been hurt by their loss. A piece of our

humanity is gone. But we must go on and continue our lives. We must counter the fear and live on as those who died would have wished. We must mourn but then we must move on.

If life halts, that means fear has won.

Terrorism is a threat – the new fear. Its goal is to shatter our reality and enforce its reality. Sadly, this disaster makes Pearl Harbor seem meek. It's Pearl Harbor, disaster movies, and World Wars mixed into one. Many lives were lost.

People from all over have been affected and many more will continue to be affected. It's unreal – like a movie – but worse because none of us know how it will end.

To quote Marlon Brando from 'Apocalypse Now,' "You must be friends with the horror and fear."

In other words, coincide with it. It will always be there. But the spirit of life must go on and find a way out of the dark.

It will take a long time to heal, but it begins with mourning and moving on. For yourself and those lost and hurt, life must find a way to go on. For others it will take more time, and that's fine.

We are all a lot smaller now and time is what we need to heal. But we must always remember, life goes on – no matter how fear tries to crush it.

Innocence has been lost, but it will return.
Godspeed.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews from the 2001 Toronto International Film Festival

Jeunet's *Amelie* a visionary comic romance

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

I've been wanting to get my hair cut like a cute little French girl for a long time, with uneven bangs, and a fringe of hair that's shorter in the back, and longer in the front, dripping down the edges of my cheekbones. Seeing Jean-Pierre Jeunet's *Le Fabuleux destin d'Amelie Poulain* finally inspired me to make that final step and get the cut. (But apart from inspiring my new haircut, Jeunet's *Amelie* is an incredibly interesting and heartfelt film, full of the same creative vision that made his previous films, *Delicatessen* and *The City of Lost Children*, co-directed with Marc Caro, such compellingly innovative slices of cinema.)

Amelie is a fun but sociopathic young woman who decides to make the world a better place after she finds an old keepsake box full of treasures apartment stuck behind a broken baseboard in her washroom from a young boy who used to live in her apartment.



Above: Audrey Tatou stars as Amelie, the cutest French girl ever in Jeunet's latest film, *Le Fabuleux destin d'Amelie Poulain*. French girls are so cute.

After orchestrating the box's return to its original owner - without being discovered - Amelie embarks upon a succession of good deeds, writing letters to a widow from her dead husband, penalizing the cruel grocer for being so mean to his slower assistant, and orchestrating love relationships - until finally, one day, she meets her own romantic match and becomes too frightened to allow herself happiness.

With beautiful visual effects cour-

tesy of Paris' Buf Company (who also supplied the best visual effects in *Fight Club*), *Amelie*'s sunny and eccentric view of the world of Montmartre will make you wish that you lived in Paris, or at least, had the chance to visit it, and Jeunet's direction keeps the film freshly funny, moving, and surprisingly smart and intellectual, addressing a lot of issues in contemporary art and philosophy without resorting to gloppy academic discourse.

L'Emploi du temps an artsy French thriller

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

French films have a reputation for being a bit artsy-fartsy. I'm okay with movies that are artsy-fartsy - I don't think films should always have to tell a story, as long as they can be interesting character pieces, featuring personalities and situations I can be intrigued and enticed by, even if I don't specifically like the characters, or can't find a plot. Laurent's Cantet's *L'Emploi du temps* (*Time Out*, in English) is a very itchy film, combining the elements of a character film with a suspense thriller - but not in the conventional sense, as Cantet drives the viewer so deep into his lead character, Vincent's behavior and decisions that the suspense lies in the simple choices Vincent makes. It begins as almost banal, but builds and builds as you watch Vincent's mid-life crisis - or is it a mental breakdown - build to such epic proportions that he alienates himself from everyone and everything around him that he should love and cherish. Or did he ever love and cherish anything in the first place? Was he always a sociopath? The film keeps you wondering, making you feel like you feel like you understand the motivations behind Vincent's character before turning him in the opposite direction.

Vincent is a happily married man. When the film opens, you see him in the countryside, in a big, comfy

sweater, on a cell phone. You think he is on vacation, but after listening in on his conversation, you hear that he is supposedly on a business trip. As the film continues, you discover that Vincent was fired from his job several months ago as the result of a stock market crash, but is keeping it hidden from his family and friends.

Instead of coming clean with this realization, Vincent goes into shock and denial, imagining up a money-making scheme and encouraging everyone close to him to contribute money to it as an investment, including his parents, and close friends who are even less financially stable than he is. The ruse continues and continues, until a stranger and fellow con artist in a hotel lobby figures him out. We sit and wait and wait for Vincent's ruse to be discovered, but it takes a long time because everyone around him seems to be in as much denial as he is.

L'Emploi du temps is simultaneously mundane and tense, unsettling and beautiful, not because of Cantet's exquisite direction or the actor's brilliant performances, but because of Jocelyn Pook's positively startling, chilling musical score. I have never, in my entire life, seen a film so well-made almost solely based on its musical score. If you enjoy marginally artsy, foreign, character-driven French films with fantastic musical scores, you'll probably enjoy Laurent Cantet's *L'Emploi du temps*, but it's not the sort of suspense film you should watch if you're a Stallone or Schwarzenegger film.

Butterworth's *Birthday Girl* is no party

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

I was looking forward to Jez Butterworth's *Birthday Girl* because it stars Ben Chaplin - a British actor I find very hunky - and Nicole Kidman - because she is Nicole Kidman. When Nicholas Cage got divorced from Patricia Arquette, he told his agent to get whatever movie he could get, so he could work through his divorce. He made a piece of shit called *The Family Man*. I can only hope that *Birthday Girl* is Nicole Kidman's *Family Man*, because this movie sucks.

Nicole Kidman stars as a

Russian vampy mail-order bride to a mild-mannered banker, John Buckingham (Ben Chaplin). John calls the service that set the two of them up to complain about the problems in their relationship, but his calls go unanswered. As time progresses, the two seem to almost fall in love - or at least lust, as Kidman's character, Nadia, uncovers John's secret interest in sado-masochism - but the truth of their relationship comes out after Nadia's two 'cousins' come to town for Nadia's birthday.

This is the point where I gave up on the idea that this film could be even remotely interesting because I didn't really care about the charac-

ters, and didn't really understand why Jez Butterworth feels *Birthday Girl* has a story that's worth telling. Chaplin and Kidman are both pretty good actors, but their material sucks so badly, that no amount of effort can repair the stupid script and completely uneven plot structure. So when *Birthday Girl* comes out in theatres, please avoid it. It's stupid.

Kunuk's *Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner)* better than Shakespeare

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Imagine combining an epic Shakespearan tale with Inuit storytelling, and you'll get Zacharias Kunuk's *Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner)*. Using an Inuit cast of experienced and inexperienced performers, first-time director Kunuk tells the story of Atanarjuat, who falls in love with Atuut, a woman in his tribe who's already been promised to Oki, the bullying son of the tribe leader. When Atanarjuat pushes his luck and violates tradition in order to procure Atuut as his bride, Oki seeks revenge, tempting Atanarjuat with his sister as a second wife and lover, spiralling into a series of events and tragedies caused by Oki's growing greed, selfishness, and thirst for power within the tribal community.

The film's beautiful cinematography perfectly captures the vast expanses of the snow-covered, Northern Canadian landscapes, and the hardships of living off the land, as Kunuk graphically shows the Inuit way of life in terms of family, politics, and traditions. It also expresses the Inuit understanding of time, as the story slowly unfolds, making unexpected twists and U-



Above: Zacharias Kunuk's Inuit cast for *Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner)* was made up of trained and untrained actors. The movie's like Shakespeare on ice.

the sleds made from caribou antlers used to dolly the camera around the arctic landscape. *Atanarjuat* may move at a slower pace than contemporary political dramas, but it's one of the most innovative political family dramas I've seen since *Macbeth* or *King Lear*.

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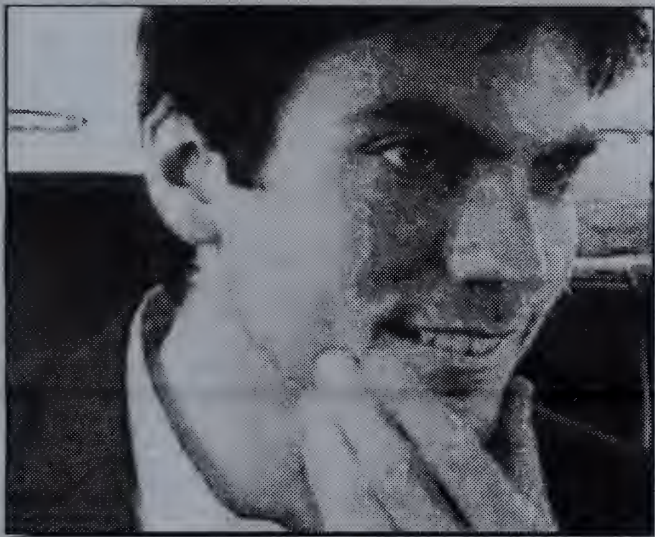
MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Ever heard the names Wes Bentley, Brad Rowe, Chad Lindberg, and Greg Fawcett? Maybe you have, but when documentary filmmaker Tony Zierra started off filming the four stars while they shared a home in Los Angeles in 1996, they were no-names. In *Carving Out Our Name*, Tony Zierra intimately and accurately portrays the pain and pleasure these young actors endure through their successes and failures, as Wes scores the breakthrough role of Ricky in *American Beauty*, Chad Lindberg hits the big time with a supporting role in *October Sky*, Brad Rowe's movie star good looks make the cover the *US* magazine,

and wannabe thirtysomething Greg Fawcett does little except sit there, bitch, and leech money off his rich grandmother.

We've seen documentaries about rising young wannabe starlets before, but Wes, Brad, Chad and Greg let Zierra to intrude so deeply into their daily lives, it could potentially ruin all of their careers, as the actors openly show the artifice of their lives - they all share a regular house, but attend opening galas in limousines, they carp and revel about media attention - and in the case of Greg, they run naked through in onion field in a moment of insane, possibly drug-induced, catharsis. Or is he just cloying for the camera? Zierra leaves the viewer wondering with this brilliant parting shot, allowing the viewer to make up their own mind about whether to feel sorry for or jealous of these starlets.



Above: *American Beauty*'s Wes Bentley allows his road to fame to be scrutinized by director Tony Zierra in the documentary *Carving Out Our Names*.

Would you like to write film, theatre, art or music reviews for The Medium?

Then e-mail Jenn at medium@canada.com

Cuaron's *Y tu mama tambien* a sexy Mexican tale of friendship

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

I feel weird watching sexy movies - you know, those films that waver in between being pornos and really good cinema. I also feel weird when a film depicts sexual activities that are object of some people's fantasies.

Mexican-born Alfonso Cuaron's *Y tu mama tambien* tells the story of two rebellious 17-year-olds, Julio and Tenoch, who anticipate a summer of sex and drugs after their girlfriends leave for summer vacation in Europe. At his Tenoch's sister's wedding, the two boys meet Luisa, the young wife of Tenoch's flaky, writer cousin.

After he cheats on Luisa, she decides to go on a road trip with the two horny young boys, in part to escape another painful secret that isn't revealed until the film's conclusions. *Y tu mama tambien* is essentially a character piece - there's no real plot, but the characters meander



Above: The following image depicts a great sexual fantasy of mine, except that in my fantasy, the boys are younger and I am standing between them.

through a series of situations, react to one another in surprising and predictable ways, until their friendship and relationships reach the utmost extremes.

The film is shot mostly with a handheld camera, which allows some intimacy, and the narrator's voice acts as a third person persona, pausing the soundtrack of the film and providing useful background information about the characters and their

Xhuvani's *Slogans* tell a story about relationships and politics

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Gjergji Xhuvani's France-Albania co-production, *Slogans*, tells the story of a young teacher named Andre, who arrives at a schoolhouse in a small mountain town, and where he is introduced to a young French teacher named Diana, and the school's odd educational policies involving the use of slogans to reinforce the values of a ruling political party. Andre quickly learns that here, education comes secondary to the party doctrines, and tries his best to fit amongst the tiny community by befriending members of the town accused of committing



Above: There's nothing like sitting on a hillside covered in rocks. counter-revolutionary acts.

When the town learns that a high-ranking party official will be driving through, a member of the party visits the area to ensure that all the slogans are updated, and spelt with white rocks all along the town's hillsides - a

repetitive and exhausting responsibility.

At first, I found *Slogans* to be overly heavy-handed and political, but we forget that in North America, democracy allows us the flexibility to believe, speak and do whatever we want want to (within the law). But finding out that *Slogans* was based on a series of actual events allowed me to appreciate this film on a different level, because beyond the information it gives the viewer on a political and historical level, *Slogans* tells an interesting story of a man who goes to the country to discover a different way of life and fall in love. In terms of its structure, *Slogans* is remarkably well-paced considering that it is Xhuvani's second feature-length film, and I think he is a certainly a director to watch out for in the future.

The Frank Truth tells the whole story behind Frank magazine

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Have you ever heard about or seen the political publication *Frank* magazine? It's the only Canadian tabloid paper, operating out of Ottawa, that digs up dirt on the lives of Canadian politicians and public figures. A harbinger of lawsuits, pain, and entertainment, *Frank* is either loved or hated by the people who read it or are featured in it, and Rick Caine, director of *The Frank Truth*, fairly assesses the magazine's role in Canadian society by balancing the general public's opinion of *Frank* magazine with the political and personal motives that drive *Frank*'s employees, and creator Michael Bates, to offend almost everyone in Canada and North America.

Although the structure and pseudo-special effects of *The Frank Truth* is hokey, and stilted at times, this documentary does a more than adequate job of exposing multiple points of view about *Frank*, as Caine and his



Above: Some pictures are worth a thousand words and don't need to be explained in a cruddy little photo caption. This is one of those pictures.

production staff question everyone from Wendy Mesley, to Ralph Benmurgi to Jeanne Becker, Brian Mulroney, and Dan Ackroyd about their feelings towards the magazine. Editor-in-Chief Michael Bates allows Caine almost unlimited access to the offices of *Frank* magazine, permitting Caine to document the shady office life at *Frank*.

At first, the documentary is blase and charming about *Frank*'s role in Canadian society - deflating celebri-

ty's bubbles, pointing out the hypocrisy of our government, unraveling stories when other Canadian publications were too frightened - but steadily shows a darker and darker portrait of *Frank* magazine, probing its unethical journalism tactics, racist attitudes, and conflicts of interest. It might be a bit cheekily executed from a technical standpoint, but this is great documentary filmmaking on a fascinating subject in contemporary Canadian history.



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From Hell isn't as bad as it sounds

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

If someone had told me a few years ago that the next film that the Hughes brothers would make after *Menace II Society*, *Dead Presidents*, and *American Pimp*, was the story of Jack the Ripper, I don't think I would have believed them. *From Hell* stars Johnny Depp as a opium-smoking, psychic, Scotland Yard Inspector Abberline, who is called to duty after the brutal murder of a London prostitute.

The investigation leads him to a whole group of prostitutes each of whom gets brutally murdered with each following day. Over the course of the investigation, Abberline meets an array of interesting characters with whom he becomes intimate friends, including the royal court physician (Ian Holm) and a young prostitute named Mary (Heather Graham). Abberline eventually falls in love with Mary over the course of the investigation of the five murder, desperately deciphering clues from the crime scenes to create a profile of the first serial killer of the twentieth century.

From Hell is a decent, if somewhat unintelligent thriller, filled with gory, graphic details, and few surprises and unexpected plot twists - it actually made me jump a few times, which is unusual because I hardly ever flinch at horror movies. The film is based on the graphic novel of the same



Above: Heather Graham stars as a prostitute in the Hughes' brothers' *From Hell*. I sat eight seats away from her at the gala screening. She wears lots of eye make-up and walks a man.

name, so most fans of the comic book will likely check out from hell, and fans of Johnny Depp will enjoy this film if they enjoyed him in *Sleepy Hollow*, since he's playing basically the same character, only less stylized. Heather Graham does passably well as Mary, the prostitute who Abberline falls in love with, but the chemistry between the two characters (and actors) is pretty well non-existent. Something about the ending of this film bothered me, too - maybe it has to do with the fact that Jack the Ripper's motives are never fully or clearly explained - but all in all, *From Hell* is a passably good, relatively inoffensive thriller - despite the Hughes brothers' attention to graphic, macabre detail.

Director Jan Sverak's touching and unsentimental *Dark Blue World*

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Jan Sverak's *Dark Blue World* tells the story of two fighter-pilot friends, Lieutenant Franta and a young rookie named Karel, who fight together in England during the second World War. When Karel's plane is shot down over the English countryside, he stumbles into the home of Susan Whitmore, whose husband is also off to war and presumed dead. The two have a passionate love affair that lasts approximately one evening - until Karel goes to visit Susan a few more times and she meets Franta, and is obviously taken by him. That makes *Dark Blue World* a story of love, war and friendship between Czech soldiers during World War II.

The film tries to cover a lot of territory, literally and conceptually, from matters of history, to matters of the heart, switching gears between past and present - the story of the two friends is told as a "flashback" - and scenes of fight-



Above: Tara Fitzgerald embraces many Czechoslovakian soldiers in Jan Sverak's *Dark Blue World*.

ing versus romance. It's an uneven mixture but Czechoslovakian director Sverak - who also directed the academy award winning *Kolya* in 1996 - tries his best to keep his story simple and true, without being sentimental. He doesn't succeed in keeping the story of a *Dark Blue World* simple, but he does restrain himself

enough to create many heartfelt, truthful moments. *Dark Blue World* could have been a really great film if a told a simpler, less ambitious story, but as it is, it's a pretty good film. (Then again, maybe I just have a thing for hunky Eastern Europeans dressed up in military uniforms speaking Czech. It's so sexy.)

Szabo doesn't decide in *Taking Sides*

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Istvan Szabo's *Sunshine*, released in 1999 to critical success, didn't do incredibly well at the box office, despite the clout of star Ralph Fiennes. Szabo's latest film, *Taking Sides*, explores the circumstances behind the life of composer Wilhelm Furtwangler - a controversial figure during the time of the Nuremberg trials, because he stayed on after Hitler's rise to power, riding a line where he both embraced and rejected the accolades and rewards that the Nazis had to offer him.

Taking Sides is set in Berlin after the

U.S. won World War II, and Major Steve Arnold (Harvey Keitel) seeks to persecute Furtwangler as a Nazi party member, or at the very least, sympathizer. Stellan Skarsgard delivers a delicate and natural performance as former Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra conductor Wilhelm Furtwangler, who tries his best to be truthful and composed - pardon the pun - during his interview sessions with Arnold, who drills him into the ground, showing no regard for his former status or respect for his position as an artistic icon for the German people.

Taking Sides is a bit heavy on the dialogue, and overly sappy in its emotional and political content at times, but Szabo makes up for any shortcomings as made up by Szabo's unique talents

as a director. If Szabo were a less talented director, he might, as the title suggests, force the audience to 'take sides' in this clash of historical and personal opinion, but somehow, he eloquently manages to give a balanced perspective into the psychology and motives of both Arnold and Furtwangler. *Taking Sides* bravely arrives at the film's conclusion with no absolute certainty about which character is in the right and which character is in the wrong. At first, I found the fact that Szabo arrives at no resolute conclusion frustrating and disappointing, but his last-minute injection of stock footage (or artificial stock footage, whatever the case may be) turned my opinion around, and allowed me to vote on the side of enjoying this film.

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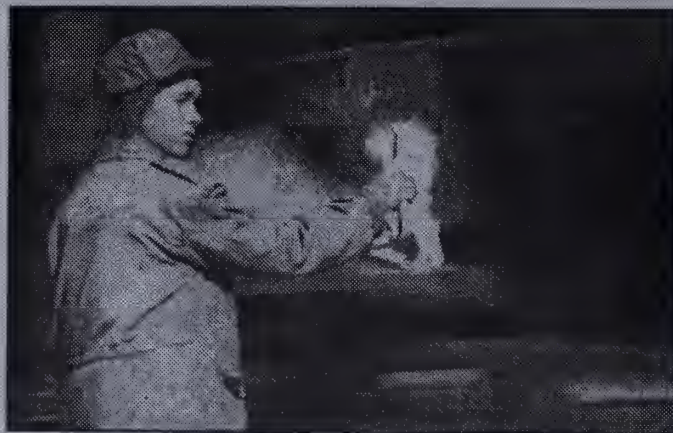
Delbaran depicts the life of a young refugee

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Have you ever sat down in front of a film that seemed so long and arduous, you felt as though it was designed to break you? Abolfazl Jalili's simple film, *Delbaran*, does exactly that, by telling the story of a fourteen year old Afghanistan refugee named Kaim who lives and works in Delbaran - a small town on the border of Afghanistan and Iran - in an isolated cafe, urging workers in the community to fix all of the things in the cafe that continually 'break' down. Out of this simple premise, Jalili tells a deeply affecting story - by focusing on mainly one character throughout the film, complicated political issues and history are deftly addressed on simplistic, manageable terms, as Jalili captures the poverty of this little town with a poverty of simple, sparse images.

Political and religious laws in Iran prohibit showing excessive violence and sexual content, so Jalili simply turns his camera in a different direction when violent



Above: A scene from *Delbaran*, one of the most beautiful, painful, boring and memorable movies I've ever seen.

acts occur, showing fruit shake off a tree as shots ring out while a refugee attempts to cross the Iranian border, and focusing his camera on the bear dangling from a rearview mirror as carjackers strike a traveler with car troubles.

There is also a poverty in the dialogue, so the camera focuses on people doing things, rather than talking about things, suggesting rather than telling, and forcing the viewer to pay attention to the obscenely natural flow of the story. While I watched it, *Delbaran* didn't

seem like an earthshaking piece of cinema - I think I even fell asleep a few times while I watched it - but it has left an indelible mark on my soul - particularly when, the day after I saw this film, the World Trade Towers were hijacked by terrorists, believed to be harboured by Afghanistan. *Delbaran* represents a shockingly different brand of cinema than the sort we North Americans are used to watching, a brand that I hope to see showing up in repertory theatres in Toronto, at the very least.

CD reviews: *Chillout* mixes and revved-up music

CD REVIEW

BY LAURENCE CYMET

Various Artists
Chillout Mix 2
(BMG)

Chillout Mix 2 is probably one of the best laid back mix CD's I've ever heard, simply because it's not background music, like most of its counterparts. The music covered in *Chillout Mix 2* features everything from the smooth, jazzy house of St. Germain to the folkier sounds of Beth Orton, moving around and covering a lot of ground instead of staying in the same "chill" place and slow boring beats of other generic mix CDs.

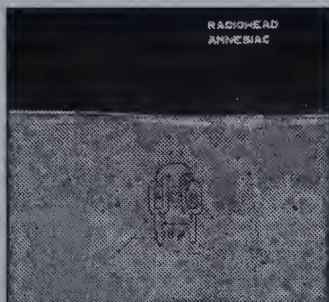
Of particular note is Faithless' "The Garden" - which requires headphone listening - a beautiful instrumental arrangement played out in warm electronic sounds that have a wealth of subtle depth. Massive Attack's "Teardrop" can probably be heard on any "chill out" album of late, but it's still beautifully vocalized required listening.

Moloko's "Sing It Back" is a hauntingly good track and will stick in your head forever - in fact, it is probably stuck in your head as you read this, and you are cursing my very words.

Ending the album with Spiritualized "Ladies and Gentlemen, We are Floating in Space" was like a very classy bedtime lullaby. There are many songs on this album like Moby's "Rushing," and Underworld's "Push Downstairs" that you have probably heard or own, but as a whole, *Chillout Mix 2* is well worth owning.

CD REVIEWS

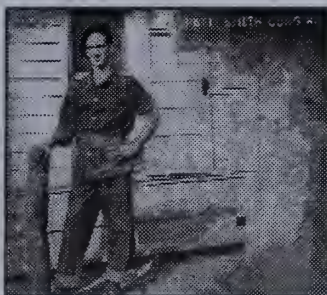
BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Radiohead
Amnesiac
(EMI)

The first time I heard Radiohead's *Amnesiac* was on a balmy summer morning at 3 am, driving home from Toronto in my shiny, black new car. *Amnesiac* didn't make my driving experience more pleasant, but it did keep me awake, curbing any swerving or dangerous driving.

From what I've read on the internet and heard on the radio, *Amnesiac* intends to bridge Radiohead's stylistic shifts between 1999's *OK Computer*, and 2001's *Kid A*. But would disagree with whoever said or decided that - even if it was Radiohead themselves.

Amnesiac has all the required elements - spaced-out, meandering melodies, layers upon layers of dreamy guitar riffs, and mournfully artsy, obscurely droned lyrics - but altogether, *Amnesiac* does little to challenge the formulas of either modern rock or electronic music. It's just another Radiohead album. And I guess there's nothing wrong with that.

Patti Smith
Gung Ho
(Arista)

I know she's a washed-up rock star who's too old for her funky blue jeans, but Patti Smith is way too talented for listeners to just toss into the garbage bin of inspiring seventies rock icons. I discovered *Gung Ho* looking much the way I imagine Smith herself looks - all crusty and dust-covered in the bottom of my CD drawer at The Medium office - but *Gung Ho* demands the listener's attention and consideration. With its subtle melodies, wrought lyrics, and solid production, particularly during songs like "One Voice" and "Lo and Beholden," *Gung Ho*'s title track sounds so anguished it makes you wonder if Smith spent some time in Vietnam. Sure, a couple of the tracks are a bit too long and overproduced, but if anyone in rock and roll deserves to produce an eleven minute rock song, it's Patti Smith.

I'd love to hear *Gung Ho* unplugged in some sort of little club setting with a few glasses of Scotch, but I doubt that such a fantasy will ever come to pass. Instead, I will settle for listening to Patti Smith in the comfort of my apartment, accompanied by an English muffin with peanut butter and a half a mug of Orange and Spice tea.

William Shakespeare meets
Groundskeeper Willie in Rick
Miller's one-man *MacHomer*

THEATRE REVIEWS

BY LAURENCE CYMET

MacHomer is Shakespeare's Macbeth, as told by the characters from *The Simpsons* - one of television's most beloved cartoon families. The twist is that *MacHomer* is a one-man show, showcasing the broad talents writer/actor/art-director Rick Miller. He shows an incredible talent for impressions in *MacHomer*, as he switches back and forth between nearly every character in *The Simpsons* at a violent pace. His impressions are numerous and almost dead-on - not many people can capture the subtly of Homer's voice, but Miller does a brilliant job - even Rabbi Krustofsky has a few lines. (I sadly missed that guy with the big moustache that keeps changing roles - the one who says "Oh I see, a fat sarcastic Star Trek fan!")

MacHomer isn't for everyone - to really enjoy it requires a good understanding of both MacBeth and *The Simpsons*. But Miller doesn't just speak the lines of MacBeth with *The Simpsons* voices - he takes many liberties with each character's favorite statements, retelling MacBeth through the personalities of *The Simpsons* characters.



Above: Rick Miller does every single voice on the *Simpsons* - with the exception of that sarcastic guy - in his one-man stage production, *MacHomer*.

Miller's hour and a half long performance is full of energy, and he hardly takes a breath let alone an intermission. His stage presence is remarkable and charismatic - moving from mark to mark with a child-like enjoyment of what he is doing.

The intriguing yet simple stage design of Beth Kates, consists of a helpful projection screen behind Miller's head, which is used to display cartoons of each *Simpson* character in the appropriate settings as they speak their lines. There is

even a hidden camera worked in the set that Miller acts into, so that he can meld his stage performance with the genre of television - he even uses the onstage camera to act out the story with puppets.

In the program, Miller points out that *MacHomer* is really just one dysfunctional family doing another - and it works quite well. *MacHomer* is a truly unique retelling of MacBeth and I don't think any one in the theater wanted it to end.

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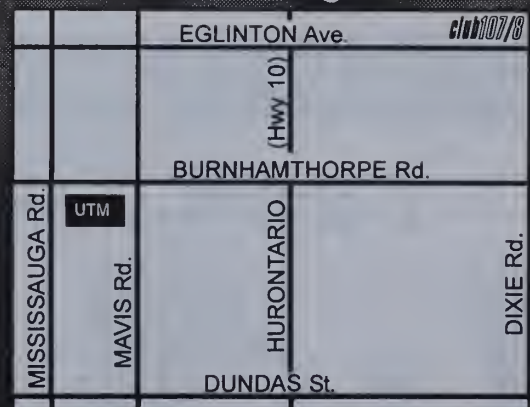
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SPORTS

Another year of school, another year of sports

Interfaculty tryouts conclude this week

BY ASTRID POEI

Another year of school means yet another year of UTM sports.



photo/Melissa Verge



photo/Astrid Poei

Women's volleyball tryouts (above) and soccer tryouts began this week with some good turnouts. (Left) The women's soccer team tries to keep it out of their zone in a losing cause at last year's championships at Varsity Stadium.

Tryouts began last week for most interfaculty sports teams. This year's tryouts saw an enormous influx of first-year student

participation. This year, UTMAC remedied the low student turnout at tryouts by holding a rest station during Athletics Orientation that featured signup sheets for interfaculty sports, as well as information on intramurals and athletics guides that frosh could take home.

"There are good turnouts at men's and women's volleyball and basketball tryouts" — Ian Hazlewood

"During the rest station at frosh a lot of people signed up," said Judy Chin, UTM Athletic Council (UTMAC) Director of Women's Interfaculty Affairs.

UTM Centre for Physical Education (CPE) Program Assistant Steve Manchur confirmed Chin's observations. "The frosh volleyball and basketball sign-up sheets were about a page and a half."

This is a huge contrast to last year's low participation numbers. "We had two people sign up for women's field hockey, and then we had fourteen people show up for the tryout," CPE Program Coordinator Louise Vanderwees said. UTMAC President Ian Hazlewood also commented on the amount of student participation. "We had about 50 people out at the men's basketball tryouts," Hazlewood said. "There are good turnouts at men's and women's volleyball and basketball tryouts."

"I know it's hard since school's starting" — Jack Krist

"This is the first time we've had volleyball and basketball tryouts in the same week," CPE Program Coordinator Jack Krist said. "I know it's hard since school's starting, but we didn't really have a choice. There are interfaculty games beginning this week."

Though gym sports have good turnouts, many field sports do not. "We won't have a rugby team this year. I think one person showed up for the tryout," said Krist. Krist also cited that the women's touch football team is lacking in numbers, surprisingly, since the UTM women are the 2000-01 touch football champions.

Despite the lack of participation in some sports, Krist is optimistic about the overall participation level in his own team. "This is going to be the best women's basketball team ever. We're stacked."



photo/Melissa Verge

Hoop dreams...A prospective basketball player tries to rebound in tryouts. Tryouts continue until late this week.

Although some tryouts concluded this week, there are still some tryout dates left:

Basketball Division 1 & 2 (Gym)
Sept. 17, 18, 19
Women's 8-9 p.m.
Men's 9-10 p.m.

Ice Hockey
Sept. 23
Women's 10:30-11:30 p.m.
(Erin Mills Twin Arena)
Men's 11 p.m.-12 a.m.
(Cawthra C.C.)

Soccer (North Field)
Women's 5-6:30 p.m. (Sept. 17)
Men's 6:30-8 p.m. (Sept. 19)

Touch Football (South Field)
Sept. 19
Women's 5-6:30 p.m.
Men's 6:30-8 p.m.

Volleyball Division 1 & 2 (Gym)
Sept. 17, 18, 19
Women's 7-8 p.m.
Men's 6-7 p.m.

Coed Ultimate Frisbee (North Field)
Sept. 18, 19
4-5 p.m.

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Canada

New athletic facility on its way to UTM

BY ASTRID POEI

With the double cohort (the increased enrollment expected when OACs are cancelled) the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) anticipates an estimated 50 percent increase to its current student population.

"...the current athletic facilities are not only inadequate to meet today's needs but also those of future growth."

— Ken Duncliffe

To facilitate this growth, UTM outlined a number of changes such as the addition of a new student residence (Phase Seven), as well as a new athletics facility.

Built in the mid-sixties to serve a student population of 2,500, the athletics facilities at UTM have undergone a number of facelifts but still do not compare to what other university campuses offer their students.

Ken Duncliffe, Director of the Centre for Physical Education (CPE) at UTM said, "The anticipated growth over the next few years has

sparked the need to plan for a new facility that will support the physical education, athletic, recreation and wellness needs [of UTM students]."

Duncliffe also said, "With the projected growth in enrolment at UTM estimated at 10,000 students, the current athletic facilities are not only inadequate to meet today's needs but also those of future growth."

Duncliffe has been put in charge of forming a 'planning and user' committee to study the needs and determine what type of facility UTM requires within the upcoming years.

Comprised of representatives from various student organizations, the user committee has had an initial meeting and hired a sport architect firm to assist in the planning of this facility.

The committee will look at examples of what other Canadian universities of similar size and composition to UTM have to offer and will recommend what best meets the needs of UTM.

Initial discussions have included a multiple gymnasium, fitness and cardio areas, aquatics, an indoor running track and sport field, and the relocation of childcare services.



Parking Lot 2, near the North Building, is the proposed site for the new UTM athletics facility.

photo/Melissa Verge

Jock Talk

What do you think about UTM building a new athletics facility?

S Jill Talk

"Great idea — more space and equipment to facilitate the double cohort."

Eisee Sylvester
Third-year
Fine Art History
Student

Saim Rashid
Second-year
Life Sciences
Student

"Sounds like a good idea as long as they don't demolish any existing buildings or the parking lots."

"Good idea."

Syini Bhatia
First-year
Business
Student

Chinedu Ukabam
Fourth-year
Comp Sci
Student

"It's a good idea. Compared to downtown, what we have right now isn't much. And I don't like seeing sweaty people walking through the South Building in spandex."

photos/Melissa Verge

UTM Sports Trivia:

What is the name of UTM's former mascot?

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The Medium will be holding a by-election for the position of Features Editor on Friday, October 5, 2001.

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Men to have interfaculty ball hockey team, women left out

First team meeting scheduled for today

BY ASTRID POEI

It's been a long time coming, but it's finally here. This year marks the first time the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) will have a men's interfaculty ball hockey team.

"Traditionally, whenever we play any team, they come out and play their best. Teams will be gunning for UTM because we're the team to beat"

— Jack Krist

Ball hockey has been a long-standing tradition at UTM, and according to Centre for Physical Education (CPE) Program Coordinator Jack Krist, "Traditionally, whenever we play any team, they come out and play their best. Teams will be gunning for UTM because we're the team to beat."

Although there will be a men's team, there is no women's team slated for this year. But don't get discouraged girls. There is a rule that allows male athletes to participate in women's sports if there is no existing men's team for that particular sport.

One instance of this is in women's interfaculty field hockey. There is no men's interfaculty field hockey team, so there is currently one male athlete who participates on the women's team. So, if this rule exists for men, it also exists for women.

Women can play on any men's teams, as long as a women's

"The men at UTM are indifferent to women playing sports with them, but I don't know how they're going to treat the women at St. George."

— Jack Krist

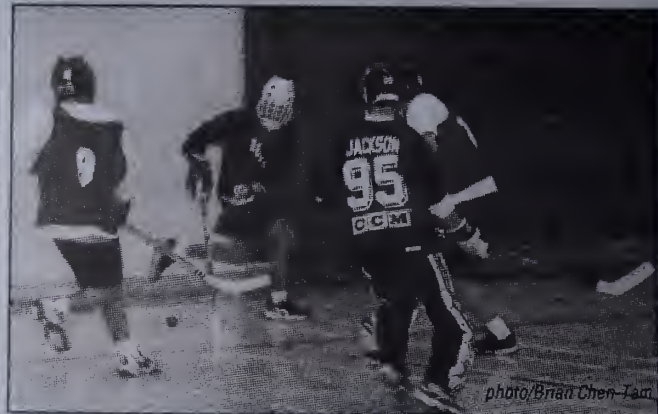
team does not exist, as is the case here with ball hockey. There are some exceptions to this rule though.

On a women's team, only two males can be on the roster and only one male can be present on the playing field. However, on a men's team, they are not limited as to the amount of females that are on the roster or are present on the playing field.

Krist addressed this rule, "Well it's non-contact, so if the women show up to the tryout and they can make the cut, then they can play." However, Krist warned "the men at UTM are indifferent to women playing sports with them, but I don't know how they're going to treat the women at St. George."

Games will be played at noon on Mondays and Tuesdays on the St. George Campus, a change from the usual women's intramural ball hockey schedule. The current women's intramural ball hockey schedule is Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Women's games were set at those early times to increase participation, as women are less willing to skip classes to play ball hockey, unlike male ball hockey players.

The first information meeting is today at 4:00 p.m. in the CPE office. [Ed's Note: Ladies, let's represent.]



Ball hockey has been a long standing tradition here at UTM.

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